Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

R 100603Z DEC 76 FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6326

CONFIDENTIAL PORT LOUIS 1087

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PGOV PINT MP

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM'S HEALTH

REF: PORT LOUIS 1016

1. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION DECEMBER 9 PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM REVEALED WHAT HAS BEEN AILING HIM FOR PAST MONTH, OR AT LEAST ONE OF THINGS THAT HAS. AFTER REMARKING THAT HIS DOCTORS HAVE FORBIDDEN HIM TO EAT SPICY FOODS, RAM TOLD ME HE HAD RECENTLY HAD AN "INTERNAL HEMORRHAGE." WHEN I ASKED WHAT KIND OF HEMORRHAGE HE SAID DOCTORS HAD DIAGNOSED A DUODENAL ULCER, WHICH HAD BEEN PINPOINTED WITH X-RAYS. HAVING HAD ONE MYSELF, I REMARKED THAT SUCH A CONDITION IS DANGEROUS AND I WAS SURPRISED HE WAS KEEPING AS ACTIVE A SCHEDULE AS HE HAS BEEN. RAM SAID HE WAS TAKING MEDICINE AND WATCHING HIS DIET, BLEEDING HAD STOPPED, AND DOCTORS HAD GIVEN HIM "A CLEAN BILL THROUGH THE WEEKEND," AFTER WHICH HE WOULD HAVE MORE TESTS.

2. MAURITIAN DOCTOR WHO IS RAMGOOLAM'S PROSPECTIVE SON-IN-LAW TOLD ME DECEMBER 4 THAT HE AND OTHER DOCTORS TREATING P.M. HAVE A DIFFICULT TIME GETTING HIM TO FOLLOW PRESCRIBED REGIMEN. WITHOUT DISCUSSING NATURE RAM'S ILLNESS, DOCTOR SAID MAIN REQUIREMENT IS THAT HE REST A LOT AND CURTAIL HIS POLITICAL CAMPAIGNING. KEELEY

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Subject: PRIME MINISTER RAMGOOLAM'S HEALTH TAGS: PGOV, PINT, MP, (RAMGOOLAM, SEEWOOSAGUR)
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